

Message Text

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67

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 MC-02 ACDA-19 EB-11 DRC-01 FEA-02

INT-08 SCI-06 TRSE-00 COME-00 /189 W

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R 231743Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 991

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMCONGEN CASABLANCA

AMCONGEN TANGIER

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

UNCLAS RABAT 0318

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EG MO

SUBJECT: SADAT VISIT TO RABAT

BEIRUT PASS DAMASCUS

1. PRESIDENT SADAT SPENT 20 HOURS IN RABAT

JANUARY 22-23 BEFORE RETURNING TO CAIRO AT END OF TOUR OF SIX ARAB STATES. DURING STAY HE HAD THREE MEETINGS WITH KING HASSAN AND WAS GUEST AT DINNER KING GAVE IN HIS HONOR. ON MORNING JANUARY 23, HE HELD PRESS CONFERENCE IN WHICH HE SAID PRIMARY PURPOSE OF VISIT WAS TO THANK KING AND MOROCCAN TROOPS FOR CONTRIBUTION TO RAMADAN WAR. MOROCCAN ARMY'S EFFORT, HE SAID, WAS GREAT, PARTICULARLY IN SUEZ CANAL REGION.

2. OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST IN PRESS CONFERENCE WERE:

A. MOST URGENT PROBLEM FOR MOMENT IS DISENGAGEMENT OF

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TROOPS ON SYRIAN FRONT. IN THIS CONNECTION, EGYPTIANS WILL NOT

GIVE UP ONE INCH OF TERRITORY, OR ABANDON RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE.

B. THERE WILL BE NO SEPARATE SETTLEMENT BY EGYPT AND THERE IS NO DIVERGENCE IN GOALS OF EGYPT AND SYRIA. SYRIANS ARE WELL DISPOSED TOWARDS REACHING AGREEMENT.

C. AMERICAN ATTITUDE HAS CHANGED. US FORMERLY SUPPORTED ISRAEL UNCONDITIONALLY. NOW SEEKS BALANCE OF FORCES IN REGION IN PURSUIT OF TWO OBJECTIVES: THAT DICTATED BY COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL AND THAT OF MAINTAINING PEACE. SINCE WAR, US, AND MORE PRECISELY DR. KISSINGER, HAVE SOUGHT TO SAFEGUARD THE PEACE. EGYPTIANS HOPE THIS ATTITUDE CONTINUES SINCE THIS IS FIRST TIME US HAS SHOWN ITSELF SO WELL DISPOSED. THIS IS POSITIVE STEP, AS THINGS STAND NOW, AND EGYPTIANS WILL RESPOND WITH POSITIVE STEPS IN ORDER TO RESOLVE GRAVEST CRISIS CONFRONTING WORLD.

D. IT IS FOR PETROLEUM-PRODUCING COUNTRIES TO DECIDE WHETHER THEY WILL RELAX PETROLEUM EMBARGO IN FACE OF NEW AMERICAN ATTITUDE.

E. ON EGYPTIAN-LIBYAN MERGER, EGYPT SUPPORTS IN PRINCIPLE UNIONIST PLANS AND REMAINS COMMITTED TO ARAB UNITY, THE HIGHEST GOAL, BUT WILL AWAIT RESULTS OF TUNISIAN-LIBYAN MERGER BEFORE TAKING A POSITION. ON LATTER UNION, EGYPT HAS SAME ATTITUDE AS ALGERIA. (MOROCCAN NEWS AGENCY ACCOUNT OF CONFERENCE NOTED HERE THAT ALGERIA HAD EXPRESSED SKEPTICAL RESERVATIONS ON SUBJECT OF ACCORDS AIMING AT HASTY CREATION OF ARTIFICIAL STATE WHILE REAFFIRMING FAITH IN MAGHREB UNITY.)

F. THERE HAD BEEN NO SECRET ACCORDS WITH ISRAEL. ONLY AGREEMENT IS ON DISENGAGEMENT OF FORCES.

G. EGYPTIAN ARMY WILL REMAIN ON PERMANENT ALERT UNTIL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM ALL ARAB LANDS.

H. BAB EL MANDEB, LIKE BOSPORUS AND STRAIT OF GIBRALTAR, IS INTERNATIONAL WATERWAY AND THEREFORE SUBJECT TO INTERNATIONAL REGULATION. EGYPT PREFERS NOT TO DISCUSS POSITIONS IT HAS TAKEN ON THIS ISSUE UNTIL END OF CONFLICT.

3. EMBASSY WILL REPORT REACTIONS TO VISIT SEPTEL. NEUMANN

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